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TODAY and TOMORROW

Churchill's 'Democracy'

THERE is nothing in Churchill's latest speech in the Commons to indicate that he is now at least going to cry a halt in the British intervention in the internal politics of Greece which has already cost the lives of thousands of British, Indian and Greek soldiers. Nor does his speech hold out any promise of leaving the Government of Italy to the Italians themselves, though he admits that the Bonomi Cabinet which he is supporting in the teeth of opposition from more than one influential section of Italian opinion, has no electoral authority—in other words, that it is just a 'binami government,' as we say in India, meaning a puppet body.

Still, Churchill has the audacity to claim in his speech that Britain has no axe to grind in these so-called liberated countries and that he is only anxious to see established there a 'democratic' form of Government. But is it government of the people, by the people, for the people to thrust this 'binami' or Bonomi Government down the throats of the unwilling Italians? Does Churchill really claim that he is spreading 'democracy' in Europe by shooting members of one political party in Greece, in order that another party may control that country for the benefit of Britain?

Again, Churchill says that Britain has to play a leading part in the Mediterranean. That can be done only if Britain dominates Greece and Italy. And that is exactly why Churchill's Government has its finger in the Italian and the Greek pies. We understand it perfectly. But, then, why call this democracy? A cobra does not cease to be a cobra if called by any other name, and British Imperialism does not lose its sting even if labelled in the famous phraseology of Abraham Lincoln as "Government of the people, by the people, for the people."

When democracy in the mouths of these men means rank imperialism, one need not be surprised, much less shocked, by a Wavell describing the British Raj in India as a truly national government, as he did a few weeks ago. These unscrupulous imperialists never make bones about misusing well-known words just to mislead people. It will be nothing to them to entirely fill the Viceroy's Cabinet one of these days with puppets and parrots like Sir Ramasamy Mudaliar and Sir Sultan Ahmad who have no electoral authority behind them, and then put out to the four corners of this earth that India has been granted Swaraj.

Surely it is not this mock Swaraj that Indians are thirsting for. It is not for such a spurious article that so many of our noble compatriots in India have suffered and died, and are still suffering and dying. We want real Swaraj and that will come only with the complete expulsion of the British from the sacred soil of India.

Burma Indians To Weigh Netaji In Gold On Birthday

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Pitched Battle On Pangasinan Plains Looming

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Nippon Forces Closely Watching Movements Of Enemy Forces

(By a War Correspondent)

A Nippon Base in the Philippines, Jan. 18 (Domei)—Ten days have gone by since the enemy effected a landing in the Lingayen Gulf and, following the establishment of a bridgehead, the enemy now apparently aims at a southward move toward the Pangasinan plains. Enemy progress in this direction however is being effectively checkmated at all key points of our firstline positions. With the exception of a few gaps and strategically unimportant points where a negligible number of enemy troops have managed to advance southward, the main force of the enemy is still being nailed down in the vicinity of the points of original landing.

Repulsing all enemy attempts at forcing any appreciable opening in our defence lines, our main force is keeping close watch over the movements of the enemy's main strength and is held in full readiness to crush all enemy attempts at an advance. While some localized fighting is under way in our first line positions, the enemy's mobile forces are now making frantic attempts at a southward drive, and a small section of the enemy having penetrated into the Pangasinan plains, a pitched battle on Luzon now appears fast approaching.

In an effort to advance to the Pangasinan plains the enemy is now challenging Nippon forces at its edges. Possessing some mobility, enemy forces on the western edge are desperately trying to advance toward Tarlac without any attempts at maintaining communication with their rearguards, thus giving our forces the chance of intercepting them.

Meanwhile, in the northern area including Aroa, south of Aringay, Santo Tomas, Damortis, and the northern part of the Bued River areas, skirmishes are developing. In these areas persistent enemy attacks against Nippon positions with the aid of tank corps are being repulsed, with heavy losses to the enemy.

"Elas" Seizes Relief Foodstuff Supplies

Lisbon, Jan. 18 (Domei)—Robert Bigio, Reuter's special correspondent, today reported from Athens that 20,000 tons of commodities which were landed at Greek ports by the anti-Axis military liaison for the relief of the Greek people were either destroyed or seized by the "ELAS" during the Greek fighting.

THREE-FOLD PROGRAMME CHALKED OUT HERE FOR SUITABLE PRESENTATIONS

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Swell "New Year Gift" Fund; Give Clothes; Join Suicide Squad!!

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Indians in Rangoon are going to make a magnificent gift to Netaji on the occasion of his ensuing Birthday—they are going to present him with gold equal to his own weight. In fact, they are going to WEIGH HIM IN GOLD!

This is revealed in an article recently published in the "Azad Hind," Rangoon. The author of the article is Sri Karim Gani, Minister of State of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and Secretary of the Propaganda Department, I.I.L. Headquarters, Burma.

According to Sri Karim Gani, they have chalked out a three-fold programme for Netaji's Birthday which is:

1. The presentation of 100,000 yards of cloth to Netaji;
2. The collection of enough gold with which to weigh Netaji;
3. The organisation of an Indian Kamikaze Unit, that is, an Indian Suicide Squad.

Sri Karim Gani says that there are about one hundred thousand Indians in Rangoon and if they will contribute at least one yard of cloth per head, the collection of the required one hundred thousand yards should be an easy affair. The collection started on the 22nd of last month and the rush of the people to contribute was so great that dozens of clerks had to be employed to cope with the situation. It is said they have already collected cloth to the value of three million rupees. The cloth so collected will be presented to Netaji who in turn will donate it to the Azad Hind Fauj.

The gold campaign and the campaign for the recruitment of volunteers for the Suicide Squad are also reported to be progressing well.

Now what are WE going to do here in Syonan and Malai? Here, instead of the Gold Programme, we have the New Year Gift to India Fund. Swell the fund with your liberal and spontaneous donations!

Again, we have the one-yard per head programme. We can give either one yard of cloth each, or a blanket, or a dress like trousers, shirt, or saree, or any other wearing apparel. This is the least that one should give. Of course, those who can afford to give more than a yard of cloth, or more of the wearing apparels, must do so. The cloth and garments so collected as a Birthday Present to Netaji will be donated for the use of our fighting sisters and brothers of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment and the Azad Hind Fauj.

The third programme here is also the same as in Rangoon, which is the intensification of the recruitment campaign, and particularly the organisation of an "Indian Kamikaze Unit" (Indian Suicide Squad) This will be formed on the same lines as the famous Nippon Squads. Those who wish to join this Squad are requested to give their names privately to the Chairman of the respective League Branch. By joining the Suicide Squad, one is making the most supreme sacrifice for our Sacred Cause. There is no sacrifice nobler than this.

This three-fold programme affords a rare and wonderful opportunity to the Indians of Syonan and Malai to show their respectful homage to our revered Netaji in a concrete form. Do not miss this golden opportunity, but seize it quickly and do your duty to your Revered Leader and Beloved Motherland!

What Is Your Birthday Present To Netaji?

Remember your fighting men and women on Netaji's Birthday!

Remember your sisters and brothers of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment and the Azad Hind Fauj!

What presents are you going to give them on the occasion of your Revered Leader's Birthday?

Give at least one yard of cloth, or a blanket, or a dress like trousers, shirt, or saree, or any other wearing apparel.

There are many who can give much more; and it is their duty to give as much as they can.

But it is the duty of one and all to present Netaji with at least one yard of cloth or one garment each for the sake of our fighting forces

Pay Your Homage To Netaji In A Concrete Form!

Nippon Assault Corps Silence Enemy Artillery

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Foe Lines In San Fabian Sector Pierced; Heavy Damages Inflicted

Tokyo, Jan. 19 (Domei)—Fighting is gradually growing in intensity in the San Fabian sector as part of enemy ground forces advanced approximately four kilometres from the coast and penetrated into Nippon first line positions, Dai Honyei revealed in a communique issued at 3 p.m. today on the current war situation in Luzon Island Meanwhile, a powerful Nippon close-range assault corps on the night of January 16 broke into enemy positions near San Fabian, to silence enemy artillery positions, the communique said. The communique follows:

"Firstly, enemy forces in the Lingayen and Dagupan sectors advanced to the line of the Agno River, while enemy units in the San Fabian sector advanced approximately four kilometres from the coast, and part of these units penetrated into our first line positions, and fighting is gradually growing in intensity.

"Secondly, our powerful close-range assault corps on the night of January 16 broke into enemy positions in the San Fabian sector and achieved big war results. Through attacks by this close-range assault corps, enemy artillery units which had been active in this area had not renewed their action up to the morning of January 18."

(By a War Correspondent)

At the Lingayen Front, Jan. 18 (Domei)—Storming the American beachhead in the San Fabian area from several sectors, powerful Nippon units since the night of Jan. 16 have been inflicting heavy damage and striking terror into the enemy's heart. Penetrating deep into enemy positions on the night of Jan. 16 our units fiercely hammered the Yanks, while another unit surprised the enemy by effecting a landing from the sea to the rear of his beachhead, and heavily blasted and set ablaze enemy munitions, tanks and trucks assembled along the coastal highway.

Foe 'Super-Forts' Raid Osaka And Kobe Areas

Tokyo, Jan. 19 (Domei)—Dai Honyei at 5.40 o'clock this evening announced: "Approximately 80 Mariana-based B-29 bombers this afternoon, Jan. 19, raided mainly the Osaka and Kobe area.

"War results achieved by our interception units are now being checked up.

"The enemy raiders caused some damage to our side on the ground."

Heavy Fighting In Bastogne And Aachen Sectors

Berlin, January 18 (Domei)—On the Western Front, grim fighting for various localities took place yesterday east and north-east of Bastogne, according to frontline despatches received. The Germans shortened their front by disengaging movements farther to the east and thus prevented American attempts to cut off the German Ardennes salient, the German communique stated. It added that after several weeks' lull fighting activity was revived in the Huertgen forest south-east of Aachen. In the Hatten area in the Lower Vosges the enemy suffered heavy losses in men and tanks while the Germans also destroyed 57 enemy tanks in the Alsace fighting yesterday.

On the Eastern Front at the big bend of the Vistula Warsaw, which the Germans first occupied on Sept. 27, 1939, was evacuated after grim fighting, the German High Command announced. It added that Czestochova and Tomoshov also fell into Soviet hands.

The defenders of Budapest again warded off heavy Soviet attacks in grim house-to-house and street fighting. In the battle on the East Prussian border region, German units scored another defensive success against the attack by 35 Soviet infantry divisions and numerous tank brigades. Two hundred and one Soviet tanks were destroyed in this fighting, the German High Command revealed.

In Central Italy the fighting intensified yesterday. Local British attacks between the Etruscan mountains and Lake Comaachio remained unsuccessful, the German High Command said.

American terror bombers yesterday raided northern and north-western Germany, particularly hitting dwellings in Paderborn. Greater London was again shelled by German long-distance weapons. In coastal waters around England, German submarines sank nine ships totalling 54,000 tons, including one large tanker. In addition two escort vessels were sunk, the German communique said.

United States War Expenses Mounting

Lisbon, Jan. 18 (Domei)—United States war expenditure during Dec. last year, totalled $7,835,000,000, or an increase of $740,000,000 over November, according to a Washington dispatch quoting figures revealed today by the United States War Production Board.

War expenditures during the calendar year 1944 were revealed to have amounted to $91,174,000,000, compared with $85,135,000,000 in 1943.

Reconnaissance B-29 Damaged Over Nippon

Tokyo, Jan. 18 (Domei)—One enemy Mariana-based B-29 appeared over the Osaka and Kobe district about 10 a.m. today apparently on a reconnaissance mission, but when intercepted and attacked by our air defence forces this enemy "super-fort" quickly turned back toward the sea ejecting flames, and was seen jettisoning bombs into the water. It is believed the enemy plane was not able to make its Mariana base.

Churchill Surveys War Situation; Admits Complex Problems Facing British & Anti-Axis Governments

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Lisbon, January 18 (Domei)—British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, in a lengthy political and war survey in the House of Commons, today strongly demanded from the British people greater unity and clearer realization of joint purpose in order to cope with the varied and increasingly complex problems which confront the British and anti-Axis governments in the prosecution of the war, according to a London dispatch.

Whether the British people can produce "a moral and intellectual impulse of unity and a clear conception and definition of joint purpose" seems "to me the supreme question of the hour and age," Churchill declared, "for often have great combinations almost attained success and then at the last moment cast it away."

In his lengthy review which opened a two-day debate on the general political situation, the British Prime Minister complained, "It has fallen to the hard lot of Britain to play the leading part in the Mediterranean, particularly, the Eastern Mediterranean."

With specific reference to Italy, Churchill pointed out that behind the fighting lines in Italy, the British Government through its assistance of the Bonomi Regime, has been compelled to shoulder tremendous political and economic difficulties. Britain has no political combination in which she needs Italy as a partner, but, Churchill said, "We must take care that all the blame for things going wrong is not thrown on us."

As to Britain's policy toward Yugoslavia, the British Prime Minister also claimed that Britain has "no special interest" but "we have acquired a certain duty." He revealed, however, that the British Government was instrumental in bringing about the Subasic-Tito agreement and indicated that Britain is bringing pressure to bear on Yugoslav King Peter to withdraw his objections to the accord. Churchill inferred that the Yugoslav Monarch was wrong in voicing his opposition and hinted that if King Peter did not modify his views, Britain would throw its support behind Marshal Tito.

Turning to Greece, Churchill said, "We are toiling through a mighty maze but it is not without a plan." In this connection, he took the occasion strongly to assail critics of British military intervention in Greece. "There is no case in my wartime experience where the British Government has been so maligned and its motives so traduced in our own country by important organs of the press or among our own people," he said.

With reference to Bulgaria and Rumania, the British Prime Minister pointed out that these countries recently "passed under the control of Soviet military authorities" and suggested that Moscow now holds the upper hand although an understanding has been reached between Britain and the Soviet Union as to their joint policy regarding the region concerned.

War Secretary Stimson Discloses Staggering American Casualties

Lisbon, Jan. 18 (Domei)—United States War Secretary Colonel Henry L. Stimson today revealed that casualties suffered by American ground forces in France, the Lowlands, and the German border region from the time of the initial landings to January 1 totalled 332,912, according to a Washington dispatch.

Of this total, 54,562 were reported killed, 232,672 wounded and 45,678 missing.

Casualty figures for December alone amounted to 74,788, he said.

He added that United States casualties for all theatres, as compiled on the basis of individual names received in Washington through January 7 and reflecting actual events to the period in the first part of December, totalled 580,495.

Remains Of Late Bishop Devals Brought Here

Syonan, Jan. 20 (Domei)—Remains of the late Bishop Adrian Devals, Head of the Catholic Church in Malai, whose death occurred on Wednesday at the Seremban Hospital, were brought to Syonan yesterday afternoon and received at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd where it will lie in state till interment which takes place at Bidadari cemetery this evening at 5.30.

Preparations for the burial have been completed by the Catholic Church here, which yesterday and today morning held special memorial services, attended by high-ranking officials of the Administration and Catholic Christians in this city.

1,324 Enemy Aircraft Destroyed In Burma Sector In One Year

A Nippon Base at the Burma Front, Jan. 17 (Domei)—During the period of more than one year since May 1943 the Nippon Burma-based air forces destroyed a grand total of 1,324 enemy planes, it was disclosed in a citation granted on January 14 to these air forces. Previously the same air forces were honoured eight times with Imperial messages of appreciation for exceptional meritorious services in smashing more than ten times numerically superior enemy air forces from India and China.

Of the total enemy planes destroyed during the period under review, 819 were shot down of which 265 are unconfirmed, 165 set ablaze and 340 damaged.

War results scored by the same air forces against enemy ground forces in the same period comprised more than 559 automobiles, 842 tanks and 30 armoured cars set ablaze. Moreover, heavy casualties were inflicted on enemy troops, shipping, military installations and other facilities.

Germany Ready To Meet Soviet Winter Offensive

(By a Domei Correspondent)

Berlin, Jan. 18 (Domei)—The Soviet Union, which had been mustering a huge army in the Polish front for the past few months, has launched on Jan. 12 a powerful winter offensive on a scale seldom seen during the past four years of war with Germany, indicating its hopes of fighting a decisive battle throughout the line extending from Budapest to East Prussia.

The German High Command had long suspected the Soviet's preparation for a large-scale offensive and had therefore been waiting for the forthcoming battle since last November but it did not come until two months later.

The cause of this delay had been the cynosure of interest of various quarters, but it was nevertheless the concensus of opinion among them that it came about as a result of political reasons on the part of the Soviet Union. For, why should the country help Britain and the United States offensive on the Western Front at great sacrifice when the latter refused to leave the question of Poland in Soviet hands?

It is believed that the failure of the Anglo-American offensive on the Western Front due to fierce German counter-attacks and the approach of the forthcoming talks among Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin had prompted the country to launch the belated offensive, and thus to elevate the country's political position during the parleys.

But to Germany, the postponement of the winter offensive by the Soviet Union until today has proved very favourable indeed.

The German High Command had planned to launch counter-attacks on the Western Front around December, but had the Soviet Union attacked Germany from the Eastern Front simultaneously with the Anglo-American offensive, the defence of the country would have been considerably jeopardized.

However, while the Soviet had been delaying the winter offensive, the German forces seized the opportunity and threw back the anti-Axis to a line far behind the western strongholds.

As a result, the Anglo-American scheme for an offensive was completely shattered, and in some places, it has now become impossible for them to take the offensive. With the Western Front thus checkmated, Germany can adequately meet the Red Army's winter assault.

Correction

The information regarding the formation of a Free Labour Service published in these columns yesterday is, we are officially informed, incorrect. On the other hand the I.I.L. Rear Headquarters is mobilising a proper Rescue Squad in conjunction with other communities consisting of 100 men belonging to the Azad Hind Dal Dept. to help the authorities and the general public in removing debris and rescue air raid victims and other work in connection therewith.

Apart from this, it is officially understood, the Syonan Branch of the Indian Independence League is forming another Rescue Squad consisting of 200 men through the Local Affairs Committee with the same object.

Phenomenal Progress Of Malai Broadcast Service

That the radio broadcasting service in Malai is making rapid progress and is becoming a power for good in the educational and propaganda field, with the establishment of a network of stations in all important towns of the Peninsula, was stressed by Mr. Kasai, Chief of the Malaian Broadcasting Station, Syonan, at a meeting of representatives of the Navy and Army Propaganda Departments, officials of the Broadcasting Station, and representatives of the various communities and the Press held at the Konan Club yesterday.

Mr. Kasai pointed out that there were only four stations operating last year—Syonan, Kuala Lumpur, Taiping and Penang—but with the recent establishment of stations at Ipoh and Seremban, there were six stations now broadcasting in the country. Within the next two months Malacca and Kuantan would be added to the list and here would be eight stations in the country doing broadcasting work.

With the development of the broadcasting system in the country it was for them to formulate new programmes and make further improvements and at the same time to devote more time to the study of the system of broadcasting as a whole in the country, stated Mr. Kasai. To meet the changing conditions the Syonan Station, which forms the centre of the broadcasting service in Malai, is introducing a new programme beginning from Monday, Jan. 22, and this programme will be relayed by the other stations in the country.

Mr. Kasai also mentioned the idea of setting up a committee to offer him comments, criticisms and suggestions with a view to making improvement in the programme.

The gathering was entertained to lunch and the opportunity was taken to introduce the officials of the Broadcasting Station to the guests.

Mr. A.J. Braga, the Public Prosecutor, Syonan, who represented Dr. Paglar, the leader of the Eurasian community, in the unavoidable absence of the latter, thanked the hosts on behalf of the guests for their hospitality and assured the co-operation and assistance of all present by way of useful suggestions and constructive criticisms in the great work of broadcasting.

The other community representatives present were Mr. Jayakoddy, Mr. Lim Chong Pang and Mr. Roy Ferroa.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. U. S. de Silva, brother of the late Mr. U. P. de Silva who died together with his wife and three children at Penang recently, beg to tender his heartfelt thanks to all those who rendered invaluable service and attended their funeral and those who sent wreaths and telegrams of condolence. Dr. Thambipillai and Mr. Saravanamuthu are specially thanked for the great interest they have taken in this matter.

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